

## **Talking Points for Medicaid**

- **Mississippi Medicaid is going broke**, and we needed to fix it without hurting anybody. I found a way to fix it without hurting needy people.
- Some of our Medicaid recipients – about 6% of them -- are what's called “dual-eligible” -- which means **they get state Medicaid benefits and federal Medicare benefits.**
- These people can be moved to federal Medicare – will get the same or better prescription drug coverage – and the state saves money to spend on our other needy recipients who are not dual-eligible. **Mississippi is not rich enough to pay for what the federal government already provides.**
- If you or someone you know has been notified about moving from state Medicaid to federal

Medicare, **call 1-800-421-2408**, and I will make sure you get help.

- I want to tell people who we are moving to Medicare to **remember three things**:

We are going to give you **\$1200** to spend on your prescriptions for the next 18 month transitional period until full Medicare benefits kick in;

We have more than **1300** drugs now available for you to get for free or for a really low cost; and

We can help you get a Medicare drug card that will give you a **\$10 to 25% discount** on the prescription drugs you already don't get for free.

- A good rule of thumb for Medicaid recipients is to **listen to your Medicaid case worker** who knows your personal situation and not to politicians and others who try to scare you for political or financial gain.